Dear Nomination Committee:

I am writing a letter of support for the nomination of Dan Torres as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers under 40.  Dan has distinguished himself in the field of LGBT-focused legal services.  Since 2010, Dan has directed California Rural Legal Assistance's LGBT program.  Through his dedicated and tireless efforts, a fledging project by California Rural Legal Assistance in partnership with the National Center for Lesbian Rights has matured as a dynamic, multi-faceted program to advocate on behalf of low-income LGBT individuals and their families throughout rural California.  Often the low-income communities that are the focus of Dan's and the program's efforts are home to predominantly Latino and immigrant populations.

Dan has demonstrated his profound commitment to LGBT equality by shining a light on this area of opportunity for the advancement of LGBT civil and human rights, and steadily crafting and successfully executing strategies to address the legal challenges that LGBT residents of rural communities often face--whether it's discrimination in schools, at work or in other public spaces.  A good example of Dan's effective and creative advocacy can be found in the LGBT program's work related to equal access and safe schools.  Through a series of LGBTQ Youth Summits organized by Dan, youth and parents learned from attorneys about their rights at school and heard from experts on bullying, discrimination and family acceptance.  The interactions and relationships that resulted from the Summits have opened opportunities for legal advocacy in various rural communities and provided parents with critical information about how to safeguard the wellbeing of their LGBT children in light of the troubling trends with respect to suicide, drug abuse and homelessness among LGBT youth.  Even while devoting tremendous time and energy in small towns and cities throughout California, Dan still finds time to share the work of the LGBT program with other legal services organizations and advocates both nationally and internationally.

I truly believe that Dan's work is improving lives in communities that legal advocates often consider the most difficult to reach.  It is my honor to support his nomination.

Best regards,

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|  | **Lisa J. Cisneros** [lcisneros@lchb.com](mailto:lcisneros@lchb.com) t [415.956.1000](tel:415.956.1000) f [415.956.1008](tel:415.956.1008)  Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP 275 Battery Street, 29th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-3339 [www.lieffcabraser.com](http://www.lieffcabraser.com/) |